

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 14, with the following paragraphs:

~~The~~ However, the strip 32 preferable consists of an outer continuous-electrode layer 32a, ~~an~~ a separating, electrically insulating layer 32b and an inner continuous-electrode layer 32c. The outer continuous-electrode layer 32a can be made of for example electrically conductive plastic or aluminum foil on strip 32. The insulating layer 32b can be for example sintered for normal foamed plastic the cells of which comprises for example a filler. The foamed plastic ~~is~~ preferably contains holes so that for example air passes through it. The inner continuous-electrode layer 32c can have a similar structure as the outer continuous-electrode layer 32a.

~~The above described manner~~ This provides a hollow pipe that can be used for example in such a way that as a nail passes through the pipe, a short circuit occurs between the continuous-electrode ~~layers~~ layers. ~~Therefore, and~~ the pipe warns the user of a serious ~~breakdown~~. ~~The~~ breakdown and the pipe can be used for example as a gas pipe inside a building. On the other hand, a potential difference can be created between the electrode layers, whereupon as the surface of the pipe is pressed in some place for example by a stone, the change in the potential difference of the insulating layers can be detected by a voltmeter. The application of the pipe is useful for example when laying the pipe in the ground, and for example problems caused by an excessive traffic load can be taken into account in such a situation. In the same way it is possible to detect an excessive increase of the pressure inside the pipe. The alarm levels of the pipe can be determined easily by adjusting the outside ring

stiffness of the pipe with respect to the inside stiffness and the hardness of the foam. On the other hand, when the pipe is used as a ventilation or a soil and waste pipe inside a building, noise of the sewer in the pipe can be detected and a counter-wave can be correspondingly produced in the outside to muffle the noise occurring in the pipe. Further, it is possible to use the outer surface to produce a sound, for example a warning signal. The potential difference between the electrode layers can also be used as a moisture barrier, so that water molecules cannot corrode the surface of the pipe. Correspondingly, when the insulating layer becomes damp, it affects the potential difference, wherefore the pipe can be used as a sensor for locating leakage for example in district heating pipes. The strength of the pipe is also excellent for example when aluminum is used for the electrode layer. The electrode layers can naturally be used for example for electrically heating or for locating the pipe, since for example aluminum can be easily detected from the ground by means of, e.g., a metal detector. On the other hand, sound signals can also be supplied to the electrodes and the audible sound can be used to facilitate the location. The insulating or insulation foam layer situated between the electrodes can also be modified for example with carbon black so that it is partially conductive, whereupon the compression of the insulator directly affects for example the potential difference. The application for use in sprinklers is also possible since this fast warming of the metal foil affects the electric connection between the films. Due to its great strength originating from the combination of metal and oriented plastic and the possibilities of using alarm signals, the pipe is also applicable for offshore gas and oil pipes and for large trunk lines, for instance. It seems possible that by feeding high-frequency oscillation into a pair of electrodes, bacterial growth on the outer and/or inner surface of the pipe can be prevented.